

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A studless tire having a tread comprising diene rubber and non-metal short fiber which is surface-treated in advance and dispersed in said diene rubber so as to be oriented in the tread thickness direction,

wherein when measured at 25°C, said tread has a ratio of complex elastic modulus E1 in the tread thickness direction and complex elastic modulus E2 in the tire circumferential direction of

$$1.1 \leq E1/E2 \leq 4$$

and a tread rubber hardness measured at -10°C of 45 to 75 degrees.

2. (Original) The studless tire of Claim 1, wherein said non-metal short fiber has an average fiber diameter of 1 to 100 μm and average length of 0.1 to 5 mm.

3. (Original) The studless tire of Claim 1, wherein said non-metal short fiber is glass fiber.

4. (Original) The studless tire of Claim 2, wherein said non-metal short fiber is glass fiber.

5. (Original) The studless tire of Claim 1, wherein said non-metal short fiber is surface treated in advance by a surface treating agent comprising silane containing sulfur or resorcinol-formaldehyde-latex.

6. (Original) The studless tire of Claim 2, wherein said non-metal short fiber is surface treated in advance by a surface treating agent comprising silane containing sulfur or resorcinol-formaldehyde-latex.

7. (Original) The studless tire of Claim 3, wherein said non-metal short fiber is surface treated in advance by a surface treating agent comprising silane containing sulfur or resorcinol-formaldehyde-latex.

8. (Original) The studless tire of Claim 4, wherein said non-metal short fiber is surface treated in advance by a surface treating agent comprising silane containing sulfur or resorcinol-formaldehyde-latex.

9. (New) The studless tire of Claim 1, wherein said non-metal short fiber has an average fiber diameter of 3 to 50 μm and average length of 0.1 to 3 mm.

10. (New) The studless tire of Claim 9, wherein said non-metal short fiber is glass fiber.

11. (New) The studless tire of Claim 9, wherein said non-metal short fiber is surface treated in advance by a surface treating agent comprising silane containing sulfur or resorcinol-formaldehyde-latex.